GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:157
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2003
WLL CONNECTIONS IN SUNDARBAN AREAS, WEST BENGAL
SANAT KUMAR MANDAL

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of WLL connections so far given in the Sundarban areas of West Bengal;

(b) the target set by the Government by the end of the year;

(c) whether the Government have any plans to set up a separate WLL-based telephone exchange in the area;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A PRADHAN)

(a) According to available information 1192 WLL connections are working in Sunderban Areas of the West Bengal.

(b) Each Service Provider is free to enroll customers on any media and no target is set by the Government. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. has reported the target to provide 354 more WLL connections by the end of the year.

(c) to (e) As per Government`s technology neutral policy, there is no restriction on any of Basic Service Operators/Unified Access Services Operators to provide connections with the specific technology. Therefore Government does not draw plan to set up a separate WLL based telephone exchange in the area.